Tuesday, March 15, 2016

Good Afternoon,

My name is Bret Jackson and I am President of the Economic Alliance for Michigan. Today, I am not only here to represent the Economic Alliance but the over 80 members of the Friends of CON Coalition. Friends of CON consists of a broad range of business, consumer, hospital, union, and other groups from across Michigan. We joined together because we all agree that CON is a valuable public policy tool that promotes accessibility, affordability, and high quality healthcare services.

We thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today, and welcome the oversight of this committee. According a national study, the Michigan legislature created an outstanding Certificate of Need process. It is one of the best if not the best in the nation. As the commission deliberates over a standard, it pools the collective wisdom of the state's leading subject matter experts to review the latest research, evidence, best practices, and other information to create the CON standards. As the statute requires, the Commission reviews each standard a minimum of once every three years to ensure the standards are keeping up with the latest advancements. Michigan's CON process has been lauded for the lack of political influence that has plagued many other states CON processes.

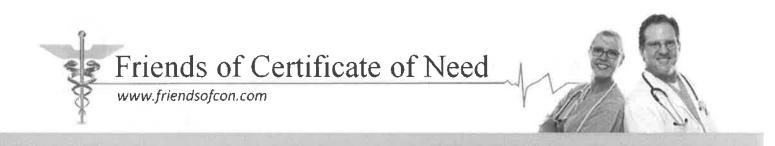
The CON Commission reviewed the CT standards, which include Dental CT in 2007, 2010, and again in 2013. The standards are up again for review this year. During each review, the Commission has asked for input of subject matter experts to give recommendations for if the service should be regulated and if so, how. In each case, after considering hours of testimony, and thorough review, the Commission has chosen to continue regulating this service. The Department heard the concerns of the Dental Community and created a shortened and streamlined application process that is unique to Dental CT. For the 2016 review, the Commission also heard the concerns of the Dental Community and created a special workgroup process to review only Dental CT.

Our coalition believes this is the right avenue for this issue to be vetted and does not support the bill that is being discussed in this committee today. We support Michigan's thoughtful and deliberative Certificate of Need process, and encourage the legislature to continue to support this valuable program that helps allow access to high quality and cost effective healthcare.

Thank you for your time this afternoon.

Bret Jackson

President, Economic Alliance for Michigan Friends of Certificate of Need Representative



WHO ARE THE FRIENDS OF CERTIFICATE OF NEED?

Friends of Certificate of Need consists of a broad range of business, consumer, hospital, union, and other groups from across Michigan. An effective and responsive Certificate of Need (CON) program helps to respond to critical problems regarding increasing healthcare costs which threaten the financial viability of businesses, as well as consumers, hospitals and other health care providers. We joined together because we all agree that CON is a valuable public policy tool that promotes accessibility, affordability and high quality health care services.

OUR MEMBERS

Associations, Payors & Consumer Groups

Alpena Area Chamber of Commerce Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Cadillac Chamber of Commerce Detroit Regional Chamber Economic Alliance for Michigan Gaylord Area Chamber of Commerce Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce Michigan Health Purchasers Alliance Michigan League for Public Policy Michigan Manufacturers Association Michigan Nurses Association Priority Health Small Business Association of Michigan Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce Value Health Partners

Hospitals & Health Systems

Ascension Health Michigan

Oaklawn Hospital, Marshall

Borgess Health Genesys Regional Medical Center at Health Park St. John Providence Health System St. Mary's of Michigan Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Beaumont Hospital (Troy, Royal Oak, Grosse Pointe) Bronson Battle Creek, Battle Creek Bronson Methodist Hospital Chelsea Community Hospital, Chelsea Covenant Medical Center, Saginaw Detroit Medical Center Children's Hospital of Michigan, Detroit Detroit Receiving Hospital, Detroit Harper University Hospital, Detroit Huran Valley Sinai Hospital, Commerce Two. Hutzel Women's Hospital, Detroit Kresge Eye Institute, Detroit Michigan Orthopedic Specialty Hospital Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan, Detroit Sinal-Grace Hospital, Detroit Gratiot Medical Center, Aima Marquette General Health System, Marquette Memorial Medical Center of West Michigan, Ludington Mercy Monroe Hospital, Monroe MidMichigan Health MidMichigan Medical Center (Midland, Clare, Gladwin) Munson Healthcare, Traverse City Munson Medical Center, Traverse City

Businesses

Chrysler Group, LLC Auburn Hills Delphi Corporation, Troy Ford Motor Company, Dearborn General Motors Company, Detroit ITH Staffing Solutions, Midland Kushner & Company, Kalamazoo Lear Corporation, Southfield Meiler, Inc., Grand Rapids

Labor Organizations

International Union, UAW Michigan State AFL-CIO Michigan Education Special Services Association (MESSA) United Steelworkers, District 2 SEIU Michigan State Council Utility Workers Local 223

Oakwood Healthcare, Inc. Oakivood Annapolis Hospital, Wayne Oakwood Hospital & Medical Center, Dearborn Oakwood Heritage Hospital, Taylor Oakwood Southshore Medical Center, Trenton Sparrow Hospital Spectrum Health, Grand Rapids Butterworth Campus, Grand Rapids Blodgett Campus, Grand Rapids DeVos Children's Hospital, Grand Rapids Gerber Memorial Health Services, Fremont Kent Community Campus, Grand Rapids Kelsey Memorial Campus, Lakeview Ludington Hospital Reed City Campus, Reed City Spectrum Health Continuing Care United Memorial Campus, Greenville Zeeland Community Hospital Trinity Health, Michigan, Livonia Mercy General Health Partners, Muskegon Mercy Hospital, Cadillac Mercy Hospital, Grayling Mercy Hospital, Port Huron Saint Mary's Health Care, Grand Rapids Saint Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital, Howell St Joseph Mercy Oakland, Pontiac

Saint Joseph Mercy Saline Hospital, Saline St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Livonia University of Michigan Health System